

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-02 ISO-00 CU-04 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /073 W

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R 250905Z JAN 78

FM AMCONSUL SURABAYA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1175

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL MEDAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SURABAYA 0043

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, ID

SUBJECT: LATEST ON REPRESSION OF STUDENT ACTIVITY IN SURABAYA

REF: (A) JAKARTA 1016 (B) SURABAYA 0035

1. NO MORE THAN 50 STUDENTS ARE BEING HELD BY THE MILITARY AT ANY ONE TIME IN SURABAYA. ARRESTS ARE STILL BEING CARRIED OUT, BUT AFTER INTERROGATION, THOSE WHO ARE NOT CONSIDERED HARD-CORE TROUBLE-MAKE ARE BEING RELEASED, PARTICULARLY IF THEY SUPPLY THE AUTHORITIES WITH NAMES OF OTHER STUDENT ACTIVISTS. THE MAJOR LEADERS OF THE STUDENT MOVEMENT HERE IN SURABAYA, SUCH AS HARUN AL-RASYID AND SOLEH, ARE BEING HELD INDEFINITELY. THIS INFORMATION WAS GIVEN TO CONOFF BY LEADING SURABAYA EDITOR SHORT-TIME AFTER LATTER WAS BRIEFED BY COLONEL HENRY SANTOSO, HEAD OF INTELLIGENCE FOR EAST JAVA'S LODAM VIII. EDITOR SAYS THAT FOR MANY THE STAY IN JAIL MAY BE A LONG ONE.

2. AGIL ALI, INFLUENTIAL EDITOR OF LONG-STANDING STUDENT WEEKLY, MINGGUAN MAHASISWA, WAS ARRESTED LAST NIGHT. ACCORDING TO SURABAYA EDITOR, COL. SANTOSO SAID ZAT THIS ARREST WAS NOT FOR AGIL'S POSITION AS JOURNALIST BUT BECAUSE OF HIS CLOSE CONNECTIONS
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WITH STUDENT LEADERS. MINGGUAN MAHASISWA IS NOT OFFICIALLY BANNED, BUT ITS OFFICES ABOVE THE OFFICES OF THE SURABAYA POST HAVE BEEN SEALED BY SECURITY AUTHORITIES. WHEN CONOFF OBSERVED THAT NO EAST JAVA NEWSPAPERS HAVE BEEN BANNED, EDITOR ONLY LAUGHED AND SAID "NOT YET."

3. CONOFF ALSO VISITED FOUR LEADING SURABAYA CAMPUSES--AIRLANGGA,

IKIP, ITS, AND IAIN--MID MORNING. NO MILITARY VEHICLES, NO TROOPS, AND NO POSTERS WERE OBSERVED. ALL UNIVERSITIES APPEARED TO BE OPERATING AS USUAL, ALTHOUGH SOME IN MID-SEMESTER BREAK, WITH LARGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS MOTNG ABOUT CASUALLY ON ALL CAMPUSES. ACCESS TO THE UNIVERSITIES WAS COMPLETELY UNRESTRICTED.

4. AMONG OTHER REPORTS WE HAVE RECEIVED IS ONE TO THE EFFECT THAT A TOTO ANWAR CLAIMS TO BE THE LEADER OF AN ON-GOING STUDENT ACTIVIST GROUP AT AIRLANGGA WHILE HIS BETTER KNOWN COLLEAGUES ARE IN PRISON. MAX MARGONO, EAST JAVA CORRESPONDENT FOR BANNED JAKARTA DAILY KOMPAS, TELLS US HE HAS HEARD THAT FIVE RETIRED OR INACTIVE GENERALS--ALI SADIKIN, NASUTION, DARSONO, KAMAL IDRIS, AND SARWO EDHIE--ARE BEING DETAINED IN JAKARTA. HOWEVER, OUR EDITOR FRIEND SAYS HE DOUBTS THIS.

5. PLEASE PROTECT ALL SOURCES.
SHERRY

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